Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
RARS
WORLDWIDE FRIENDSHIP

CLUB CALL: W4DW

REPEATER: W4DW/R 146.04/64

MAY 1983

ISSUE 158

LEADING EDGE

SHERMAN STARNES
W4IZU

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Just as a business organization must excercise good business judgement to survive, so must a non-profit organization such as AMSAT. Last year the AMSAT directors decided to releive the volunteer elected staff of some of the responsibilities of the business end of the organization by hiring a paid administrator, to be called General Manager and Executive Director. In March the position was filled by Bill Lazzaro, N2CF. Bill's background is in science education and he has the demonstrated ability to obtain grants from government sources and private foundations for worthwhile endeavors such as the exploration of space by radio amateurs. He is expected to extend the fundraising ability of AMSAT, bringing greater financial stability to the organization and improving it's ability to develop and operate more advanced satellites.

AMSAT's most immediate effort is to launch the Phase 3B spacecraft, now set for June 3. The satellite was to arrive at the launch site in French Guiana in late April for integration with the ARIANE launch vehicle.

Several amateur radio satellites are under development in the United States and other countries around the world. Now comes word of another from the Japan Amateur Radio League with the support of Japan's National Space Development Agency, their equivalent of our NASA. The craft will carry a mode J transponder and a digital packet transponder with store-and-forward capabilities. It will be launched in 1986 using the proven Japanese H-1 rocket.

Program managers for UOSAT-OSCAR 9 at the University of Surrey have been unable to unsnarl a cable which is preventing the attitude-stabilization gravity-gradient boom from being extended more than about a meter. This limited extension does not pro-

(continued)

NORTH CAROLINA HAM WATCH
A PUBLIC SERVICE OF AMATEUR RADIO

HAMWATCH TRAINING AT RARS MEETING

(see inside)

EXECUTIVE EDITOR: FRANK C. WEISS, KY4W

PRODUCTION EDITOR: ANN M. BRADLEY, WA4APK

LEADING EDGE
(continued)

vide the degree of spacecraft stability required for the Earth-imaging system. UO-9 has turned out to be a real character-building exercise for the Britons.

Although no official word has been received from NASA, the general feeling is that Dr. Owen Garriot, W5LFL, will be allowed to operate on two meters from the ninth Space Shuttle flight. The flight was scheduled for October but the impact of the two-month delay in last month's Shuttle flight has not been determined.

OSCAR 8 continues to operate on a modified schedule - mode A on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, mode J on Thursday,Friday and Saturday with Wednesday reserved for battery recharge. Control stations for the spacecraft are making every effort to prolong the life of the batteries. All earlier amateur radio satellites have sucumbed to battery failure and OSCAR 8 appears to be destined for the same fate.

There has been no change in the status of the Russian amateur radio satellites, RS-4 through RS-8 since last month.

"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."
Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.

"The reason most of us don't live within our income is because we don't consider that living."
Anonymous

HAMFEST FUZZ

by
BRUCE EGGERS
WA9NEW

Well, its over. April 17 has come and gone. If area Hams had anything left after paying taxes, a fair portion of it went into the coffers of the vendors. One of the major Ham equipment dealers reported "A fantastic day". Others were less jubilant, but all were pleased.

Other than the early morning problem of generator placement (handled well by K4NYV, WA4AOO, et al) the major problems that came to my attention were such as one vendor who hadn't been able to find anyone to take his $4 for a ticket and another who wanted to donate a small prize for the drawing and was somehow overlooked. Those kind of problems even I can handle!

At this writing, I don't have complete reports on the contest winners or finances. That'll come at the May RARS meeting. But it is time to say thanks to all. That is, it's time for All to say thanks to All. So the next time any two RARS members meet, both extend the right arm for a handshake, the left for back-patting, and each thank the other. After all, it's YOUR hamfest.

(Now let's see. Who can we get lined up for next year? There's tickets, prizes, facility, set-up, sound, hospitality, contests, generators, clean-up, tables, . . . , . . ., etc., etc.,)

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LPM '83

ROANOKE DIVISION LEAGUE PLANNING MEETING
May 7-8, 1983
Holiday Inn Downtown, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Sponsored by: Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was held on April 6, 1983, at the First Presbyterian Church, S. Salisbury Street. President "Doc" Cobb, W4YZX, called the meeting to order and welcomed the members and guests. One guest, David Noell, N4IFV, became a member of RARS this evening.

Bruce Eggers, WA9NEW, gave a report on the upcoming Hamfest, April 17th. All Committees are covered but more workers are needed in several. Signup sheets were passed around for talk-in and ticket sales. Several Committee chairmen made reports on their progress and readiness for the Hamfest.

Pete Thacher, N4HQZ, asked for an advancement for refreshments for the Saturday night Hospitality event. A motion was made, seconded and carried for the advancement of $100.00 to cover this expense.

Doc read a letter from the Faculty Club stating that we still owed a bill for food furnished by them during Field Day, June 27, 1981. A motion was made, seconded and carried that this bill, in the amount of $85.00, be paid.

Reid Whitten, AB4W, made a report on ARES and passed out the new Wake County call up list. He also explained the procedure for using it in case of an emergency.

Doc announced that the program for next month's meeting will be a program on Hamwatch to be presented by people from the Governor's office. He urged all members and non-members alike to attend.

Bob Johnson, AA4L, announced that QCWA Spring meeting will be held at his home at 4:00 PM, after the Hamfest, followed by dinner.

Doc announced that the bids were in on the RARS equipment for sale and named those whose bids were accepted. A check should be given to the Treasurer and equipment picked up as soon as possible.

Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, reported on the ARRL Bulletin concerning the expansion of the 20 meter phone band. Extra portion will expand to 14.150-14.175 Mhz. and Advanced from 14.175-14.225 Mhz. The date for this to begin will be announced later.

The program for the evening was presented by Bert Bailey, W4FMN. It was a most interesting and informative program on basic wire antennas.

The door prize was won by Bert Bailey. The meeting was then adjourned.

Marty Silver, NY4H
Secretary, RARS

SILENT KEY

Friends and Members of RARS will miss Arthur L. Poole, WD4PDU, who became a Silent Key on Sunday, April 17, following his second stroke within a year. Arthur had been recouperating at home for several months and was gaining much pleasure just from listening to his radio. He had been a net manager for the JFK net and a member of RARS until his illness.

ANOTHER NET?

Among other things one discussion at the Hamfest Hospitality night swung to CW and ways to get RARS techs and novices to build up code speed. So a new net called the EZ-QZ is formed. Time is each Wednesday at 8:30pm to start. Freq is 21500MHZ. Simply check in, say hello or whatever. I think that freq will allow everybody to zip-cord an antenna and should be little qrm. Since EZ and QZ don't know how to run a CW net, procedures will be unusual, speed will be slow. Maybe W4FMN can help teach net ctrls how to do it? First net is Weds following next RARS meeting. CUL

w3ezR es n4hQZ

THE AWARD WINNING ANTENNA

by Pete Thacher, N4HQZ

Due Credit for my award winning 2 meter soup can antenna goes to Carlton Moseley,W4YVY of Tarboro. It was his article in Oct 83 73 from which I built this gem. Story goes like this: After going into hock to acquire a nifty HT, I embarked on a 2 meter QSO hunt. HELLO - N4HQZ IS LISTENING, ANYBODY THERE? AHH N4 SOMETHING THIS IS A4HAM OVER. HEY OK OM, JUST TRYING OUT MY NEW HT, HOW DOES IT SOUND OVER. CAN'T HEAR YOU N4? TERRIBLE COPY, YOU MUST BE ON A RUBBER DUCK, 73's A4HAM CLEAR. Umm I said, how did he know that, and the ad said I could get to those "tough ones" with all 3.5 watts. Always was a little sckeptical of doing much with a milliwatt. Must be the antenna, need something better. Back to the magazines and the catalogs. WOW! going to cost me another $30+ to use the thing. What's this an antenna out of soup cans, a J antenna no less and with 3db over a 1/4 whip. OK I'am game, that's about my speed and amateurs build things right. RIGHT. What no soup cans in the garage or the garbage. Hey xyl how about some soup, you know "soup is good food". All five cans of it! One quick trip to the hardware store for a threaded rod 5/16" 24" long and a couple of nuts and that wonderful place on 6 forks, yup KM for a auto replacement antenna with a little hex nut to hold it on. Boy if they don't have it you don't need it. ABT $4 poorer and out to the garage. step 1. solder the cans together. Try soldering gun, WRONG! Try different solder, WRONG, try hand torch, still WRONG and now one can is black. After putting out the fire, forgot to take the labels off, I need a novel solution, back to the article. Hey the guy that wrote this is in N.C. and its weekend rate time, I'll call and make someone happy! Hams are supposed to be friendly right, RIGHT. "Mr mosely, you don't know me and I'm not selling anything. Want to talk about soup cans! (that oughta make his day), U never had that problem huh, soldered no sweat uh, gee wiz ok thanks bye". Lets see, liquid steel maybe, no too messy, take it to a welder, get serious. How about filing the can first, can't hurt, after all I already burned off the soup labels with the torch. Bingo a little filing and it solders great. Well almost, can't keep the cans from rolling all over the table. Couple of bricks for support oughta fix that, Yep that will do it, sure scratches the cans though, next time I'll use wood. Probably won't work anyway. rigs still on and there is that guy again, he's probably got a beam or something anyway and all I'll have is a stack of burned soup cans. Maybe I should give this ham stuff up, I'll never pass the 13 wpm code anyway. Have faith maybe it will work, Moseleys does, but he's a pro. 3 1/2 " up from bottom of bottom soup can and connect the lead from the SO239. Think I should have read the article twice, should have done that before I soldered them together, but it was soldering so well, I got carried away. Out with the torch again, can't get any ugler.(who ever heard of an unsolder job). SO239 soldered in, used wire brush this time, had to to get all the black stuff off. Resolder bottom can, put a block of wood on the bottom and need a plastic top. "NO, you cannot have the top to the bathroom'cleaner and while your here have some more of this soup. That thing will never works anyway and its ugly, your not going to put it on the roof are you??. (xyls never understand) Ok shaving cream can top works but not as pretty as cleaner. I do have a sense of aesthetics u know! Got to keep an eye on that cleaner until its empty. Plastic on top of the top can and auto replacement antenna on top of the rod that runs from bottom, adjust antenna for 39" above cap. Put a couple of RARS stickers and an Eaties for Wheaties stickers on it for class. Who want to advertise Campbell soups anyway. Nobody on the air except me now, Murphy of course. Later tests proved that it works on all Raleigh repeaters, full quieting, what else. Matter of fact it works anywhere. Looks neat on top of shack desk, I'll tell visitors thats all I use for HF stuff, maybe get them interested in radio. WRONG. Great for hotel rooms, garage, summer on the patio, whatever and whereever. Could even be made mobile mounted but works just as well sitting on the floor in the back, great for rental cars. On drawback, it puts u in a mental mood to hoard tin cans, all sizes, but they come in handy for fishing worms and junk. If you want a copy of the article, ask me, comes with 5 soup cans - labels extra. Maybe I'll enter it in the homebrew contest and win a prize for ugly!! Took first place.

BERT'S BEAT

WITH
BERT BAILEY, W4FMN

CW CONTEST ##########################

The CW Contest at the RARS Hamfest was mighty sparsely attended. Maybe the starting speed of 20 wpm turned folks off. But where were the Extra Class types?? The contest, true to the "show must go on" syndrome, was conducted. With drab attendance, the First Class Super-duper Soldering Iron, complete with exquisite certificate was won by one Joe O'Connor of the Richmond Amateur Radio Society and RATS. He received 20 wpm and could not quite get the string together at 25 wpm. Bobby Sherrill assisted me with the contest, and we just about outnumbered the contestants. So..... for next year we will perhaps start at 5 or 10 wpm to attract the faint hearts along with the men with the bugs. Surely the contest is not doomed. Perish the thot. All you OMs, YLs, and XYLs out there, get on the key and monitor the CW bands so you can win prizes and certificates at next year's Key Klicker Kontest. Go Bugs!!!

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Satellites Already Passe ??????????

I knew we were moving along at a fairly rapid pace these days but to read that satellites are old hat is a bit of a blow. If you read the late st Data Commo mag, you will wonder. Professor Paul L Csonka, in physics at the Univ of Oregon, is heading up a research effort with SRI Internat-ional at Menlo Park to market a---- mirror. A cobweb of lightweight graph ite fibers 10 feet in diameter(!) shaped like a parachute(gotta be gud) and floating 85 miles or so above Terra Firma is the concept hoped to replace the OSCAR types. The device re flects signals, bouncing them from an emitter at one point to a receiver at another. Benefits: assuming a bit less than $100K for a typical commo satellite, including launch and booster charges(money that is), the 10 million buck cost for this Space Mirror is almost a freebie. Held up by an EM signal emitted from earth stations, the mirror 90 miles up would cover an 800 mile radius, or 70% of the US. And there is the rub. This mirr-or cannot replace the satellite--the satellite can cover half the earth and the Mirror cannot. The launching can be accomplished with a balloon, a space shuttle or the mighty Field Artillery. And launch-ing costs of the typical satellite: around 15 million. So there is one area the Mirror can hold down our taxes. Now if only Professor doesn't head for the Canadian League:::(Larry did).

IMPORTANT PROGRAM
FOR ALL RADIO AMATEURS
AT MAY RARS MEETING

HAMWATCH TRAINING
FOR PARTICIPANTS

Bruce Eggers, WA9NEW

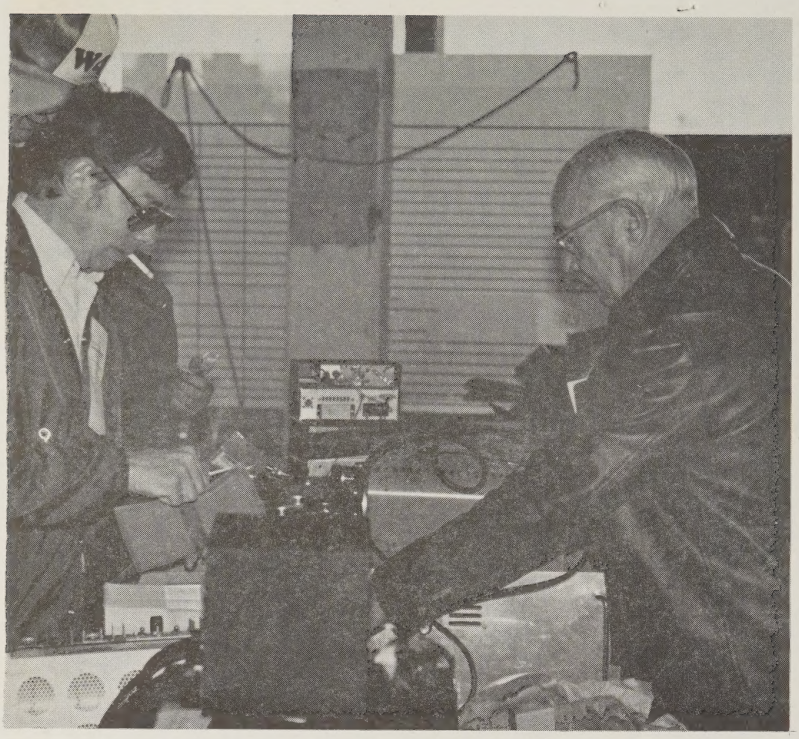
NORTH CAROLINA HAM WATCH
A PUBLIC SERVICE OF AMATEUR RADIO

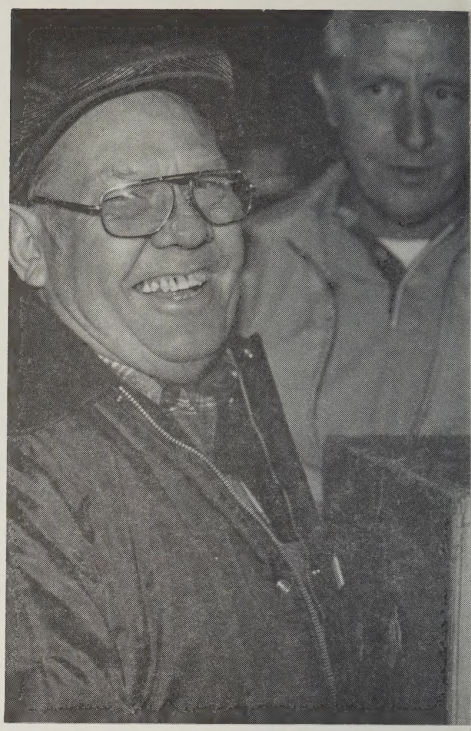
Public Service communications, "...particularly with respect to providing emergency communications", is the responsibility of ALL Amateur Radio operators. There are plenty of opportunities. The ARRL's Amateur Radio Public Service Corps, with its Amateur Radio Emergency Service and National Traffic System, is certainly a cornerstone in the foundation of this 'hobby'. And there are many other opportunities for each of us to serve the public. Some for some, others for others. Now, in North Carolina, there is indeed One for All. It's HAM WATCH!

Through the efforts of W4RGF, in conjunction with the NC Dept. of Crime Control and Public Safety, we now have a State-wide program. "A Public Service of Amateur Radio".

Those who attended the December RARS meeting got an overview of this program. For those who didn't, I refer you to the January issue of the RARS newsletter. And to all RARS members and interested Amateurs, I urge you to attend the May RARS meeting. This is your chance to show your support for, and involvement in, an outstanding opportunity for public service. This program has the support of the Gover-nor's Office and is being funded by tax dollars (YOUR dollars).

See you at 116 S. Salisbury St., 7:30 PM, Wednesday, May 4.





Photographs courtesy of Walt Short, N4SW

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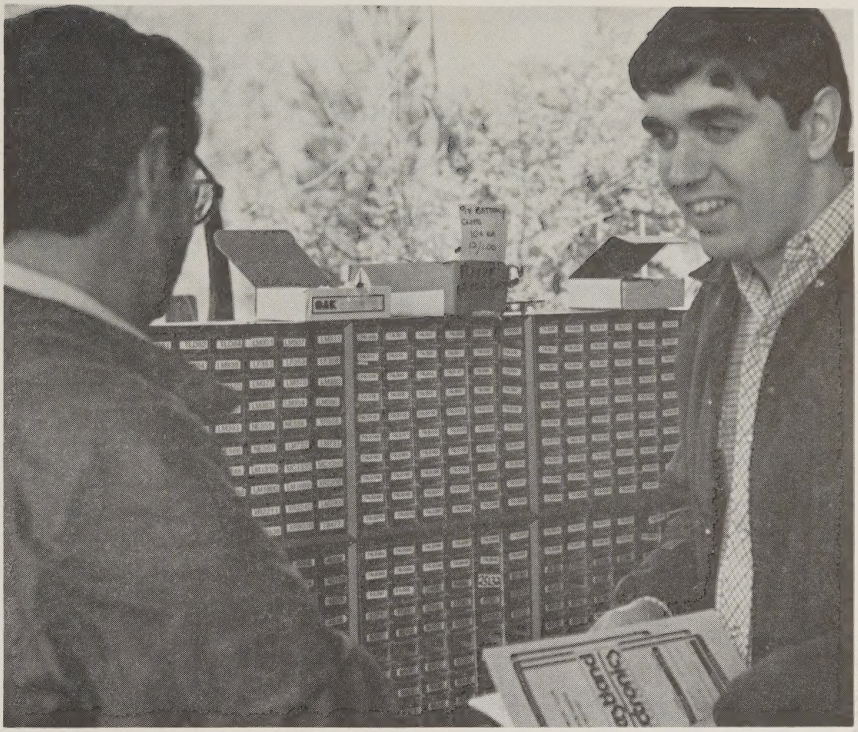


FEST FEVER

What is it with us hams? What is the magic of a Hamfest that brings about the transformation of otherwise sane and sensible individuals. What causes the sudden maddness? I call it "Fest Fever." Of course the Hamfest is RARS big event of the year. We work at it for months. But why, with the first breath of spring--the first Hamfest flyer--do we begin to act a little strange? Long before "Hamfest" becomes the first and last word at each meeting--before committee chairmen begin their plea for help and sign-up sheets begin criss-crossing in the peanut gallery--the Hamfest Honcho and the executive board begin laying the groundwork and making lists--mailing lists, vendor lists, lists of chairmen, lists of prizes, lists to do, lists to buy, lists of lists. This group is usually the first to be affected. It's probably not until after Christmas that the membership is brought into the act. And then, as the tempo increases and the excitement builds, a sort of "spell" comes over us and Fest Fever appears to be a common affliction.

Why else do we start cleaning out the shack and slapping price tags on all but the most essential gear, cutting back on expenses and hoarding our cash? Why else would a guy who vows every April, "Never again," find himself volunteering to chair the same committee year after year? And why would you find a group of weekend sleepy-heads chattering foolishly over breakfast at 6:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning? It's the fever! It has to be.

There are other symptoms as well. Chairmen may become aggressive and demanding--asking the impossible of themselves and their commitees. The rest become willing and accommodating, finding no demand impossible. During Hamfest weekend most members experience bloodshot eyes, sore feet, tired aching muscles, and a general state of utter fatigue, but strangely accompanied by feelings of satisfaction and pride plus a sense of well being.

By Monday morning recovery, has begun and most have returned to some state of normalcy. However side effects may still be present, some longer lasting than others. Don't be surprised if you experience some hallucinations about this time. Many imagine a ridiculous snowfall in April following the ever-present sunshine of Hamfest Sunday. Don't let it bother you. It's a common complaint and only temporary. Some find their financial condition needs a longer period of recovery. Others may be so lop-sided by the fatness of their wallet that a permanent disability may occur, the only cure being a quick trip to the next Hamfest where this unhealthy burden may be unloaded.

Poor Bruce, WA9NEW, has understandably been the most seriously affected this year. He appears by now to be his old self again, but there are still tell-tale signs. For instance he hasn't been able to wean himself away from his clip-board and pencil. They have become his security blanket in the last several months. I understand his shack is still littered with Hamfest flyers and remnants of all those lists. He doesn't feel comfortable without them yet. He is, however, becoming used to his family again, and soon he'll be carrying on whole conversations without once mentioning "Hamfest."

Whatever your own particular experience with Fest Fever, be assured it is never fatal, never crippling, but usually incurable. Each year about this time, look for another recurrence, another epidemic--another Hamfest, and another attack of Fest Fever.

Get well soon--73, Ann, WA4APK

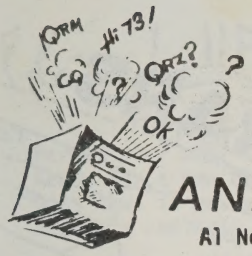
THE ARRL, RARS & YOU

wa9new

Now there's a winning team! The individual, active amateur; the local club, working for the Amateur on the local scene, involved with the community; and the national society, coordinating the Amateur Radio Public Service Corps, legal assistance, government liaison, support to AMSAT, training, awards, contests, and on and on. YOU need both RARS and the ARRL.

As an affiliated club, and soon to be Special Service Club, RARS membership already pays you dividends far in excess of annual dues. But ARRL membership through RARS brings more benefits to both you and RARS.

See Norm, KN4G, our treasurer, for more details. The ARRL and RARS need YOU. And YOU need the ARRL and RARS.



SIGNALS AND NOISE

Al Nowakowski, W4VP

DX'ers are a literate group. Most ham magazines feature a DX column. Many club newsletters include some form of DX section, and there are several DX bulletins with wide circulations. Add to this the frequent editorials and letters-to-the-editor regarding DX'ing and you find quite a wealth of material.

However, the articles fall into several basic catagories. First, there is DX news; the who, where, and when of DX operations. Then there are the continuing controversies including list operations, pile-up behavior, and the desireability of DX'ing itself. Finally, in much smaller quantity, is a collection of miscellany including DX humor, techniques, and philosophy.

This last group is a personal interest of mine and over the years I've collected a few items that stand out. I'd like to refer you to a few, and while it may take a bit of digging on your part to locate them, I believe TRUE DX'ers, and a few others, will find them interesting, amusing and informative.

The best description of a DX'er I've found was written by W7RGL in a small humor piece buried in the back pages of QST for December, 1958. The article, titled "What Is A DX'ER" continues to delight me.

My vote for best DX technique article goes to N6AR for "The Gentle Art Of Listening" which appeared in CQ for February, 1982. Larry manages to succinctly describe techniques it has taken me a quarter of a century to learn on my own.

A significant wealth of information regarding the motivations, machinations, and mysteries of DX'ing is contained in the book "DX IS", a collection of WA6AUD's writings for the West Coast DX Bulletin. After reading Cass's witty and insightful essays, I truly regret not having been a subscriber to the WCDXB. This book belongs on every TRUE DX'ers bookshelf. It's available from the CQ Bookstore.

One final recommendation is the article by W2IJB in the American Scene column of TIME magazine for May 3, 1982. Ed's description of the KP2A/KP1 Navassa DXpedition is a benchmark not only because it exposed a mass audience to the joys and agonies of DX'ing, but it is also perhaps the finest DXpedition article ever written.

As I mentioned before, these are my personal favorites. If you have a favorite DX article, let me know, I may have missed it.

Postscript

I have obtained permission from the A.R.R.L. to reprint the "What Is A DX'er" column. As mentioned before, it originally appeared in QST for December, 1958.

What Is A DXer?

BY PAUL AMIS,*[1] W7RGL

BETWEEN the innocence of a Novice and the dignity of the Traffic Man we find a harassed creature called the DXer. DXers come in assorted sizes, modes, and powers, but all DXers have the same creed: to work DX every second of every minute of every hour of every available day and to protest with higher power (their major weapon) when the band starts to fold and ionospheric punishment finally shoos them up to 75 meters.

DXers are found everywhere — on top of, underneath, barely inside of, sliding into, drifting out of, or switching to.

Beam manufacturers love them, rag-chewers hate them, DX tolerates them, traffic men ignore them, and heaven protects them.

A DXer is skill with a chirp, concentration with a cigarette glued to his lip, superstition with a text book, and a fount of technical know-how with a touch of TVI.

When you are rag-chewing, a DXer is an inconsiderate, bothersome, intruding jangle of QRM. When you succumb to working the "buddy system" with him, his brain turns to jelly, or else he gets his finger stuck in the bug. When you've given up in disgust and tuned elsewhere, he'll operate like a demon, tail-end like a pro, and come up with seven new ones in exactly 27 minutes flat.

Continued Next Page

A DXer is a composite — he has the memory of a UNIVAC, the shyness of a pile-driver, the strategy of Halsey, the energy of an atomic bomb, the stealth of a cat, the lungs of a dictator, the audacity of a steel trap, the enthusiasm of a fire-cracker, and hasn't been to a motion picture in years.

He likes 20 meters, coffee, hilltops, winter, beams, big tetrodes, ten-acre farms, the mailman, swivel chairs, *QST*, women (occasionally), Saturday mornings, maps, band-edges, pilot lights, and sunspots. He's not much for rag-chewing, dipoles, kids in the shack, s.w.l.'s, low-level modulation, apartment houses, OOs, channel two, Field Day, novices, or traffic.

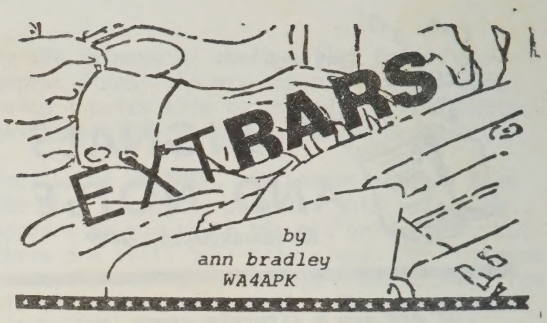
Nobody else is so early to rise, or so late to work.

Nobody else gets such a thrill out of fluttery signals, T7 notes, heavy accents, or 100 confirmed. Nobody else can cram onto one operating table a jar of dull pencils, three issues of the *Call Book*, half a cup of cold coffee, a screwdriver, a time-zone converter of dubious accuracy, a log book (badly smudged), the last two years of *QST*, an 19-inch line of cigarette burns, a war-surplus key, five pieces of wire, an OO report, 468 blank QSL cards, two full ash-trays, a 1949 edition of the *Antenna Handbook*, a chrome-plated mike, and a unpaid $36.23 bill from the local radio parts emporium.

A DXer is a magical creature. Atmospherics can drive him from 10 meters, but it can't keep him from peering under the third layer on 40. You can forbid his 80-foot tower in the back year, but you can't stop him from working DX.

You might as well give up — you can't get rid of his ear-shattering note on c.w., or his punch on phone . . . a baggy-eyed, stubble-chinned, tuned-to-the-band being, with a callus on his sending elbow.

But when the advancements of this hectic hobby start getting us down: when the rigors of TVI, transmitter efficiency, clicks, radiation patterns, chirps, BCI, and neighbors begin making the game not worth the candle; then you'll find that one of these DXers will come forth, blinking in the unfamiliar sunlight, long enough to share with his unenlightened breathren a scheme, a story, a method, a design, or a system, to help us over the technological hurdles modern electronics and jam-packed bands has set before us. And, after planting this 24-carat nugget in the unploughed field of the average ham's mind for the inestimable good for all, he will peer into the western sky and scratch, sniff the air a few times, and know from the feel of things that *this* night, of all nights, will be good for DX.



Hooray for Marty, NY4H! Finally a contact with Burma for that long awaited Zone 26. WAZ is in the bag! What's next Marty?

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It's been a terrible month for XYLs. Mary Jo Littlewood, Shirley Peeler, and Lela Hodges have all had surgery recently and EXTRARS hopes they are all mending nicely. Let's have no more of this, Girls!

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Thanks again to Walt Short, N4SW, for the Hamfest photos---and especially for the speedy processing in order to meet the deadline.

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We broke a record this year for the guest from the most distant point--not once but twice. Internationally famous RARS Hamfest was visited by our favorite Dutchman, Piet Maclaine Pont, PE1CIK (alias KB4RX) from Hiluersum, Holland. Also on hand for Hospitality Night and the Hamfest was another old friend of RARS--Joe Stevens, WL7AML, from Kodiak, Alaska. What a surprise and what a pleasure to see them. Both have renewed their membership in RARS.

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The Hamfest brought us eight members--just count them, eight---Some old--Some new. Along with Piet and Joe, we welcome Bill Coleman, KA4DAP, from Rocky Mt.; Lyn Williams, W4WDN, from Erwin; Carl Rice, K4IWX; David Noel, N4IFW; Andrew Denmark, WD4MIA; William Klotz, KA4BWV--all from Raleigh. Don't forget the meeting on May 4, Fellows!

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The gods do smile on RARS Hamfest, right? Between rain, snow, and freezing temperatures, the hamfest weekend was beautiful--a little chilly, but who dares complain.

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With a trumpet fanfare and banners waving, EXTRARS says "Well Done" to Chairman Bruce, WA9NEW, all the Committee Chairmen and all the helping hands. We did it again!

RARS NEWS OFFERS AWARD

Earned your WAS? DXCC?
Ready for a new challenge?
RARS News is now announcing its very own "W4DW/R ACTIVITY AWARD" to be earned by "64" separate contacts on W4DW/R at 146.04/64.

Here are the rules:

(1) Beginning May 1, 1983, log contacts with "64" or more separate stations through the club repeater. That's licensed technicians or better--no phone patch or third party traffic, please.

(2) Keep your own log--honor system. Record name, call, date, and approximate time. Submit log with application to Rollin Ransom, NF4P, "RARS News Awards Department," 5017 Devonwood Court, Raleigh, NC 27609.

(3) Net controls may use net check-ins but may count each separate station only once. If you'd like this advantage, make arrangements to substitute as NCS.

(4) All 1983 awards will bear a charter number. Charter #1 will receive a free years membership in RARS. Awards will be presented at club meetings whenever possible. All awards will be announced in the newsletter and will be recognized at the Awards Banquet.

(5) As with other popular awards, special endorsements may be earned. Use your imagination--all base, all mobile, all HT----

And a few tips:

(1) If you're listening or monitoring, say so. Someone out there in radioland may need you for a contact. You may need him. If everyone just listens, well.....

(2) If you talk to a new contact on another frequency, don't hesitate to ask him to switch over to "64" for a brief one. There may be others who would like to make the contact too.

(3) Use the net for a source of contacts, but please hold your individual calls until after the net report. Don't use net time for contesting.

(4) Be courteous. Don't interrupt a QSO to make contacts. Wait your turn. At the same time, be generous. Give others a chance to pick up a new one.

It is hoped that this endeavor will generate a bit of friendly competition and encourage a stronger bond of comraderie within the local ham community. "Six-four" is RARS' party line. It's the place to say "howdy--Howzitgoin?" Have fun! Don't fight! Play fair!

P.S. Plans are brewing for a special award for 100 contacts. Don't stop at "64."

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TO: RARS News Award

I have logged _____ contacts on W4DW/R - 146.04/64 between the dates of_____ and _____. I am submitting my log which is an accurate and honest record of these contacts, along with this application for my W4DW ACTIVITY AWARD.

_____ _____

Endorsement Name Call

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.
P. O. BOX 17124
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27619

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Raleigh, N.C.
Permit No. 1731

RARS meets each first Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the
First Presbyterian Church - 116 South Salisbury St.

Calendar

May 4 - Regular RARS Meeting
116 S. Salisbury St.

May 7, 8 - ARRL League Planning Mtg.
Myrtle Beach S.C.

May 14 - Durham, N.C. Hamfest

May 21 - Gastonia, N.C. Hamfest

May 28, 29 - Knoxville, TN Hamfest

May 29 - Roanoke, VA Hamfest

June 1 - Regular RARS Meeting

June 5 - Manassas, VA Hamfest

June 18, 19 - Atlanta, GA Hamfest

June 25, 26 - ARRL Annual Field Day

July 16 - Cary, NC Swapfest